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Wersing language

The **Wersing language**, also known as **Kolana** after its primary dialect, is spoken in scattered settlements around the coast of Alor in Indonesia. Due to this settlement pattern, Wersing speakers are in contact with Abui and Kamang speakers and often have some competence in these languages.[3] Though not closely related, it has cultural connections with Tukudede on the neighboring island of Timor.[4]

Wersing	
Kolana	
Native to	Indonesia
Region	Alor
Native speakers	3,700 (2014)[1]
Language family	Trans–New Guinea ? ▪ West Bomberai ? ▪ Timor–Alor–Pantar ▪ Alor–Pantar ▪ Alor ▪ East ▪ **Wersing**
Dialects	Kolana Maneta Langkuru (Pureman, Mademang)
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	`kvw`
Glottolog	`wers1238 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/wers1238)`[2]

Languages of the Alor Islands. Wersing is shown at four locations around the east coast.

Phonology

Wersing consonant phonemes

		Bilabial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar
Nasal		m	n	ɲ <ny>	
Plosive	**voiceless**	p	t		k
	voiced	b	d		g
Fricative			s		
Approximant		w		j <y>	
Lateral			l		
Trill			r		

Wersing vowel phonemes

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
Mid	ɛ <e>		ɔ <o>
Open		a	

References

1. "The Alor-Pantar languages:" (http://www.oapen.org/download?type=document&docid=631252#page=15).
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Wersing" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/wers1238). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Schapper, Antoinette; Hendery, Rachel (2014). "Wersing". In Schapper, Antoinette (ed.). *The Papuan Languages of Timor, Alor and Pantar: Volume 1*. Walter de Gruyter. pp. 439–503.
4. Wellfelt, Emilie; Schapper, Antoinette (2013). *Enriching the archival picture: The use of local sources in assessing the nature and impact of historical contact*. Papers presented as part of the Panel on East Timor, the Portuguese, and the Indonesian Archipelago - Historical Sources

and Methodological Reconsiderations at the International Convention of Asia Scholars 8, Macau, 24-27 June.

External links

- Wersing (https://archive.mpi.nl/islandora/object/lat%253A1839_00_0000_0000_001E_ACCB_0) at The Language Archive

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This page was last edited on 20 October 2019, at 09:27 (UTC).

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